Post-Crisis Earth

-3006

-3006-06-01

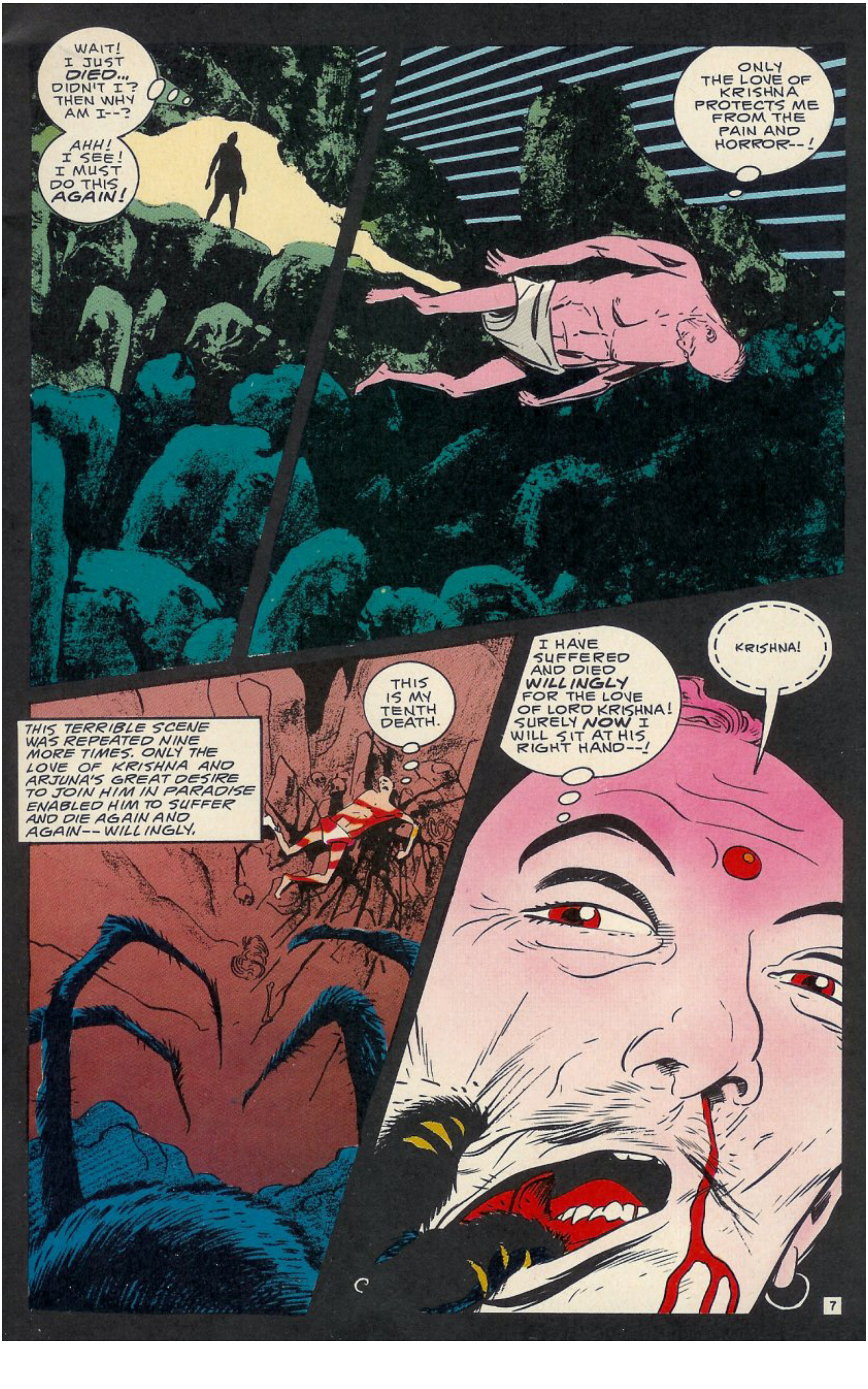
Himalayas

NEAR THE END OF KING ARJUNA'S LIFE, KRISHNA APPEARED TO HIM AGAIN.
LORD KRISHNA, IS MY LIFE THEN AT AN END?
YES.
I HAVE *TRIED* TO FOLLOW YOUR TEACHING, FOR THE LOVE OF MY LORD KRISHNA--
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, ARJUNA. IN YOU I AM WELL PLEASED.
MY LORD!
RISE, MY SON. YOU HAVE FOUGHT LIKE A TIGER AND MOURNED LIKE A LOVER AND ESTABLISHED A JUST KINGDOM. I HAVE A REWARD FOR YOU.
NONE IS NECESSARY, MY LORD!
YOUR DIVINE PRESENCE IS ENOUGH!
YOU WILL SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND IN PARADISE.
THEN I AM *FREE* OF THE CYCLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH?
NOT *QUITE*.
3

YOU WILL SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND AFTER A HUNDRED MORE INCARNATIONS AS THE FRIEND OF KRISHNA--
SO MANY, MY LORD!
OR AFTER TEN INCARNATIONS AS KRISHNA'S ENEMY.
HOW CAN I BE YOUR ENEMY? I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL!
CHOOSE!
TEN LIFE-TIMES--A HUNDRED LIFETIMES--
OH, KRISHNA! MY LOVE FOR YOU DECIDES FOR ME. I AM HUNGRY AND EAGER FOR YOUR GRACE--!
TUT! REMEM-BER YOUR LESSONS!
TO BE MORE QUICKLY BY YOUR SIDE, I WILL AGREE TO BE YOUR ENEMY FOR TEN LIFETIMES!
I WAS AFRAID OF THAT.
VERY WELL. YOU HAVE CHOSEN!
FASHHH
4

MY LOVE AND REIGN ARE AT AN END. I HAVE DECIDED TO SACRIFICE MY-SELF TO THE SPIDER GOD OF THE MOUNTAIN CAVE-- PREPARE!
MY LOYAL SUBJECTS, MY LOVE OF THE LORD KRISHNA BIDS ME MAKE THIS SACRIFICE. DO NOT MOURN; RATHER, BE JOYFUL.
5

THE LOVE OF KRISHNA WILL PROTECT ME FROM THIS AGONY...!
AAAAAH!
KRISHNA!
6


WAIT! I JUST DIED... DIDN'T I? THEN WHY AM I--?
AHH! I SEE! I MUST DO THIS AGAIN!
ONLY THE LOVE OF KRISHNA PROTECTS ME FROM THE PAIN AND HORROR--!
THIS TERRIBLE SCENE WAS REPEATED NINE MORE TIMES. ONLY THE LOVE OF KRISHNA AND ARJUNA'S GREAT DESIRE TO JOIN HIM IN PARADISE ENABLED HIM TO SUFFER AND DIE AGAIN AND AGAIN-- WILLINGLY.
THIS IS MY TENTH DEATH.
I HAVE SUFFERED AND DIED WILLINGLY FOR THE LOVE OF LORD KRISHNA! SURELY NOW I WILL SIT AT HIS RIGHT HAND--!
KRISHNA!
7

SOMETHING IS WRONG! VERY WRONG! KRISHNA WOULD NOT LIE TO ME!
ONLY MY LOVE FOR KRISHNA PROTECTS ME FROM THE FULL HORROR OF MY SITUATION.
OH, KRISHNA--YOU PROMISED PARADISE AFTER TEN LIVES--I HAVE DIED TEN DEATHS--WHEN WILL MY TORTURES END?
ONLY WHEN YOU LEARN TO HATE AND FEAR KRISHNA CAN YOU SERVE AS MY ENEMY--AND THEN YOUR TORTURES BEGIN!
KRISHNAAAA!
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